DOCKET NO: 294857US0PCT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : CONFIRMATION NO: 7132

YASUKAZU NAKAKITA, ET AL. : EXAMINER:

SERIAL NO: 10/589,389

FILED: AUGUST 15, 2006 : GROUP ART UNIT:

FOR: METHOD OF DETECTING AND :

INDENTIFYING LACTIC ACID

BACTERIUM

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION TO COMPLY

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Official Communication dated May 9, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.